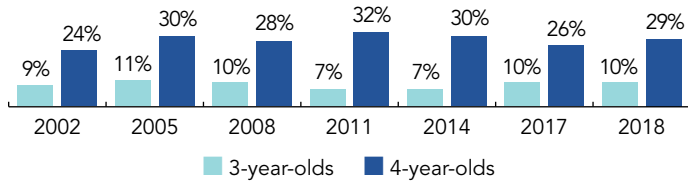
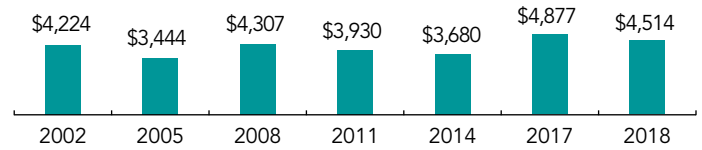


Kentucky

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2018 DOLLARS)



OVERVIEW

Kentucky preschool enrolled 21,270 children in 2017-2018, an increase of 1,835 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$96,011,951, up \$1,226,477 (1%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$4,514 in 2017-2018, down \$363 from 2016-2017, adjusted for inflation. Kentucky met 7 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW

The Commonwealth of Kentucky was awarded a Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five award in 2018 for \$10.62 million to strengthen its comprehensive early childhood system to support all young children and their caregivers, with an emphasis on highly vulnerable children and children in rural or limited accessibility areas of the state.

In 2018-2019, Kentucky began a new monitoring system, the Kentucky Preschool Evaluation System, which is aligned with the Kentucky All STARS quality rating system and requires all programs to be evaluated once every three years during a six-year cycle.

BACKGROUND

The Kentucky Preschool Program (KPP), launched in 1990, is available to 4-year-olds from low-income families, as well as 3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities. KPP programs operate either half- or full-day, for at least 2.5 hours per day, four or five days per week. Income eligibility increased from 150% to 160% of FPL beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. Children who do not meet state eligibility requirements may still participate, depending on space availability, although they are funded either by the school district or tuition rather than state dollars.

KPP is administered by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Office of Special Education and Early Learning, Division of IDEA Implementation and Preschool, School Readiness Branch. Funds are distributed to school districts through a funding formula. Each of Kentucky's 173 school districts offered KPP services in 2017-2018. School districts may subcontract with private child care centers, Head Start programs, and special education providers to offer preschool services.

The KDE launched a grant program in 2016-2017 to encourage cooperative public/private partnerships between public school districts and child care providers to increase the number of Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) eligible preschool children served in high-quality, full-day programs. High-quality is defined as achievement of three or more STARS in the state's QRIS.

All early childhood programs that receive public funds, including KPP, participate in the Kentucky All STARS quality rating system. In 2017-2018, the ECERS-3 was used to evaluate preschool classrooms.

| ACCESS RANKINGS | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 23 | 9 |

| RESOURCE RANKINGS | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 26 | 12 |

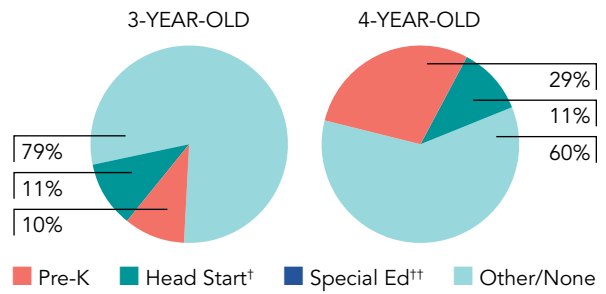
| TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET |
|----------------------|
| 7 |

KENTUCKY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Total state pre-K enrollment | 21,270 |
| School districts that offer state program | 100% |
| Income requirement | 160% FPL |
| Minimum hours of operation | 2.5 hours/day |
| Operating schedule | School or academic year |
| Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 | 10,181 |
| Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 | 13,294 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 | 0 |

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



† Estimates children in Head Start not also enrolled in state pre-K.
 †† Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | KY PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK? |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning & development standards | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Curriculum supports | Approval process & supports | Approval process & supports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | ECE, CD, ECE SpEd | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | HSD | CDA or equivalent | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff professional development | 24 hours/year (teachers); 18 hours/year (assistants); PD plans (public teachers only); Coaching (certified teachers) | For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | 20 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 20 or lower | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Staff-child ratio | 1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds) | 1:10 or better | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Screening & referral | Vision, hearing, health & more | Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Continuous quality improvement system | Structured classroom observations (every 5 years); Data used for program improvement | Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> |

7

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

RESOURCES

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$96,011,951 |
| Local match required? | No |
| State Head Start spending | \$0 |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$4,514 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$8,412 |

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.
 ** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.
 *** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

